

An Essay
on
Accuracy in Practice

Respectfully submitted to the

Faculty of

The Homoeopathic Medical College

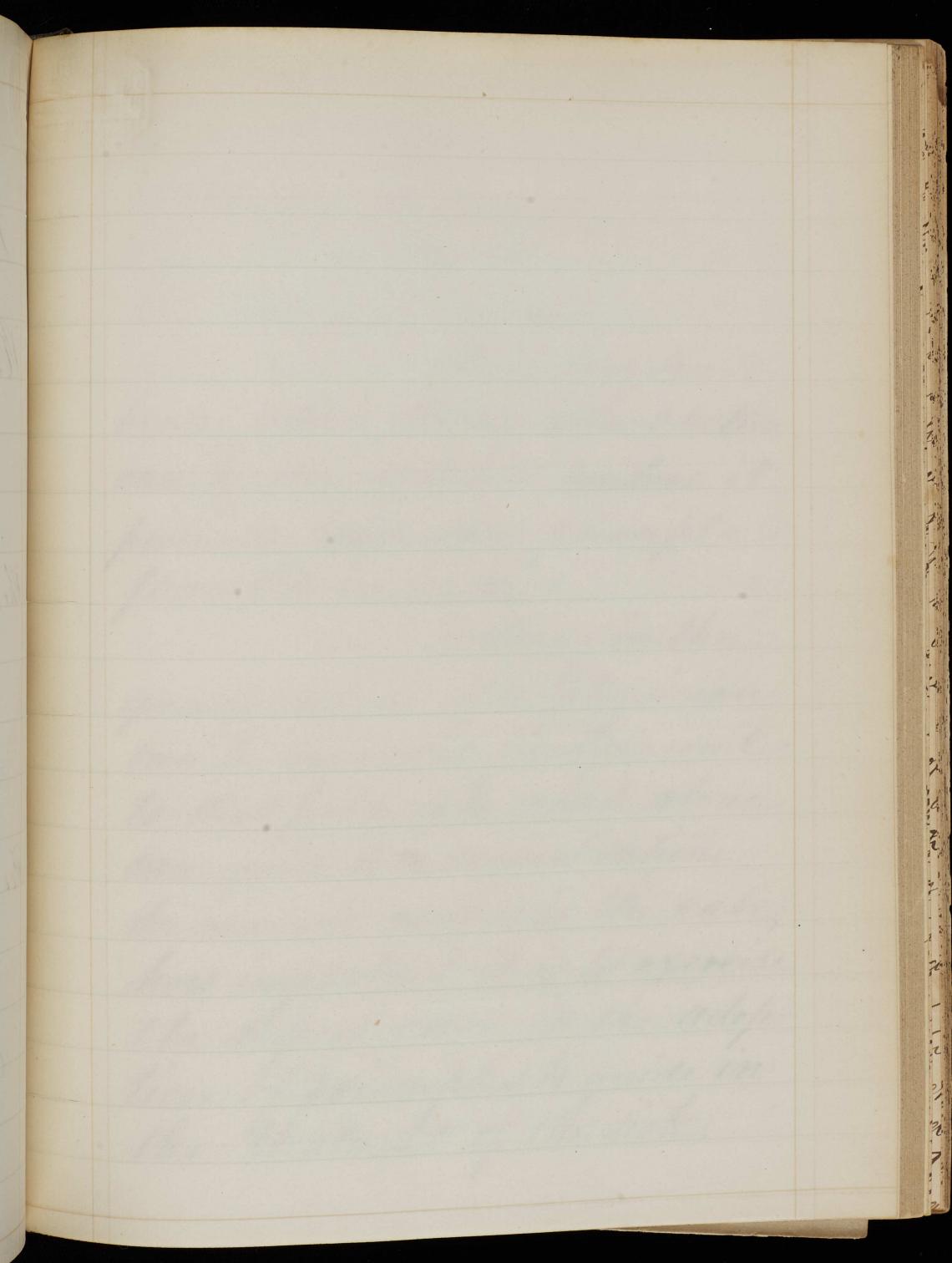
of
Pennsylvania

For the Degree of Doctor of Medicine

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of
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There is a right way and a wrong way and a
in Essay on accuracy in break
ing in Practice right will
be likely to the patient
with confidence It has long since
been settled that no correct action
can be accomplished unless it
proceeds from some principle
founded in truth, a right way

and a wrong Nothing in the
qualifications of a physician
can be regarded paramount
to that principle which alone
can guide to a correct action.
Inasmuch as this is the case,
how important it is to exercise
the deepest care in the adop-
tion of principles to guide in
the treatment of the sick.

2.

There is a right way and a wrong way even of approaching the sick. The right will be likely to inspire the patient with confidence in the skill of his physician, the wrong may poison and render inefficient all succeeding efforts.

There is also a right way and a wrong way of learning the patient's malady. The right way would lead the patient into accurate descriptions of sufferings, while the wrong way may be sure to elicit a recital of imaginary ailments and the physician may be held responsible for the manner in which the patient is misled.

There is also a right way and a wrong way of conversing with the patient about his malady; the right must always be the course which the state and condition would seem to indicate; some patients may be benefitted by conversing with them freely concerning the disease that afflicts them and some would not, therefore it is requisite that the physician should observe keenly the peculiar temperament and state of mind of his patients, before he enters into an elaboration of their diseases. —

It is right that all conversation should be avoided with patients concerning their disease, when it

becomes evident that it produces a commotion in their nervous System - And it is equally wrong for a practitioner to refuse such conversation when he is convinced that his patient's mind is in a state to be benefitted by such conversation.

Again there is a right and a wrong way of prescribing medicines. - The right cannot fail of proving useful, and the wrong can hardly fail of being hurtful. The right way is accurately based upon the law similia similibus. The wrong is based upon a mere guess. - The former may and will, if curable remove the most

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Servoces malady while the latter unless it hits rightly will probably greatly injure or prove seriously detrimental, or otherwise guess him out of existence. In order to be accurate it is necessary that the physician should possess an accurate knowledge of the symptoms of the disease, and also an accurate knowledge of the symptoms produced by remedies, that he might be able to assimilate the identical remedy, the nature of the disease requires, or in other words that he might accurately adapt the remedy according to the only well established law of cure.

Yet again it is necessary that a physician should be ac-

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curate in prescribing a diet for his pa-
tient - different diseased Con-
ditions require a diet to corre-
spond with them, and the duty
of the practitioner is to study
well the principles of diet. It
is absolutely of the highest impotance
to be able to prescribe for the sick
a judicious diet ~~appropriatus~~ to the
to the state or condition in which
the patient is.

It is further necessary that
that the physician should accurately
inspect the ~~appartments~~ of the
sick, that he may note every un-
favorable Circumstance cal-
culated to operate unfavorably
upon the patient or abridge
his comforts. That he may

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if possible have every unfavorable influence removed. It is also incumbent on him to see that proper ventilation is not neglected. In brief, it may be summed up thus.

1st. A physician must approach his patient in a kind, attentive, careful, and cautious manner. This should be a principle accurately observed.

2d. He should manifest no indifference in making his examination of the case; he should listen attentively to what the patient has to say, and avoid any leading question that may have a tendency to mislead the patient into a belief of suffering, not actually realized.

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- 3 The remedy should be chosen with great accuracy in accordance with the "law of cure"
- 4. The diet should be judiciously selected - proper intervals should be noted between the meals - quantities should be specified, and the whole should be accurately observed -
- 5. Attention should be paid to the ventilation of the apartment of the sick, and agencies that interfere with the welfare of the patient should if possible be removed.
- 6. The principle of allowing no external agent used about the body, during the time of taking the remedy, unless ordered by the physician should be

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rigidly insisted upon. —

7. A principle should be adopted for every movement, from the first to the last, and the principle adopted from reflection and conviction of its truth should ever after be regarded the rule to be accurately observed.

The fact is, Medicine requires care and accuracy in its dispensation, and nothing but habits of accuracy can avail in the hands of the practitioner. And for this end, it is well for him to reflect upon every act he intends to perpetrate or that is required in his different professional relations, — let him be sure he is right, then let him

"go ahead," let him not turn to the right or left or swerve from what convictions have assured him of being correct on any account whatever —

And in conclusion it may be remarked that an accurate observance of all the moral precepts in daily intercourse among men, will in connection with habits of accuracy in the discharge of professional duties, not only acquire for the physician an enviable name, but ^a righteous and just reward on earth and a final admission among the just in Heaven.

Finis. —